

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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R 290140 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4897

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, JA

SUBJECT: TOKYO METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY ELECTION CAMPAIGN BEGINS

1. CAMPAIGN FOR 125 SEATS IN TOKYO METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY (TMA) BEGAN JUNE 26 WITH OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION. AFTER CLOSING LISTS NEXT DAY OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED THAT TOTAL OF 223 CANDIDATES HAD FILED. THIS LOWEST NUMBER IN HISTORY OF TMA ELECTIONS REPRESENTS AVERAGE OF 1.78 CANDIDATES PER SEAT AS PARTIES ANXIOUS FOR VICTORY LIMITED ENDORSEMENTS SHARPLY.

2. NUMBER OF CANDIDATES BY PARTY IS LDP-68, JSP-44, JCP-41, KOMEITO-27, DSP-11, INDEPENDENTS-29, MINOR PARTIES-3.

3. IN VIEW OF GENERAL ASSUMPTION THAT RESULTS COULD GREATLY INFLUENCE FUTURE POLITICAL COURSE OF JAPAN ALL PARTIES ARE MOUNTING MAJOR CAMPAIGNS TO SUPPORT CANDIDATES.

4. IN UNUSUAL STEP FOR LOCAL ELECTION PARTY SPOKESMEN ISSUED OFFICIAL STATEMENTS OUTLINING ISSUES EACH CONSIDERS TO BE AT STAKE. SEC GEN TOMISABURO HASHIMOTO VOWED THAT LDP WOULD PROTECT FREE SOCIETY AND HELP MAINTAIN
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SOLVENT METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT IN TOKYO. JSP SPOKESMAN
EXPRESSED HOPE OF WINNING MAJORITY OF SEATS TO
DEAL HEAVY BLOW TO TANAKA GOVERNMENT AND BIG BUSINESS.
JCP ALSO CAMPAIGNING IN TERMS OF CONFRONTATION WITH LDP
CLAIMS THAT IT ONLY PARTY WHICH COULD MAKE LDP/ GOJ SUSPEND
ITS HIGH GROWTH RATE POLICY AND INTERFERENCE IN TOKYO
METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT AND MAKE LDP/ GOJ CONTROL ARBITRARY
ANTS BY BUSINESS FIRMS. KOMEITO STRUCK MORE MODERATE
TONE IN STATING THAT TOKYO MUST NOT BE MADE PERSONAL PROPERTY
OF LDP, BIG BUSINESS OR PREJUDICED IDEOLOGIES. DSP CALLED
ON VOTERS TO SUPPORT ITS PROGRAM OF WELFARE CITY TOKYO
IN WELFARE STATE JAPAN.
DECONTROL 1/1/74.
INGERSOLL

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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